

**Resuscitation Device**Related Patent

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This application is a continuation of patent application  
5 09/703,004, filed October 31, 2000, <sup>now abandoned</sup> which is a continuation of  
patent application 08/922,723, filed August 27, 1997, now U.S.  
Patent 6,142,962, issued November 7, 2000.

Field of the Invention

10 This invention relates to emergency medical devices and  
methods.

Background of the Invention

Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) is a well known and  
valuable method of first aid. CPR is used to resuscitate people  
who have suffered from cardiac arrest after heart attack, electric  
15 shock, chest injury and many other causes. During cardiac arrest,  
the heart stops pumping blood, and a person suffering cardiac  
arrest will soon suffer brain damage from lack of blood supply to  
the brain. Thus, CPR requires repetitive chest compression to  
squeeze the heart and the thoracic cavity to pump blood through  
20 the body. Very often, the victim is not breathing, and mouth to  
mouth artificial respiration or a bag valve mask is used to supply  
air to the lungs while the chest compression pumps blood through  
the body.

It has been widely noted that CPR and chest compression can  
25 save cardiac arrest victims, especially when applied immediately  
after cardiac arrest. Chest compression requires that the person  
providing chest compression repetitively push down on the sternum